

Fourteen new courts have been instituted since last July, three were consolidated into one court, making the total number of courts 42, a net gain of 12 for the year. The net increase for the entire jurisdiction for the year will be close unto 700.

The High Court has been called to convene at Stillwater on Wednesday, July 10th—a month earlier than usual on account of the Supreme Court meeting. The courts at Stillwater and South Stillwater have made great preparations for the entertainment of the delegates, and have arranged an ample programme, which will include a tour of inspection of the State prison—as they think this will be the only occasion a Forester will ever have to see the inside of one,—a steamboat excursion up the St. Croix river to the beautiful Dulles and the new Inter-State Park, and many other interesting events.

The Minneapolis courts joined in celebrating the anniversary of the Order on June 17 with an entertainment at Century Hall. The hall, which is one of the largest in the city was crowded to its utmost extent with Foresters and their friends, and an interesting programme was rendered, including instrumental and vocal music, literary exercises, etc., not forgetting an eloquent and instructing address by High Chief Ranger O'Keefe.

In St. Paul there was no joint celebration: but many of the courts held anniversary exercises in their lodge rooms, to which the general public were admitted.

Courts St. Vincent and Northcote, located in town of the same name, situated in the north-west corner of this State, just across the Manitoba line, although only recently instituted are doing great work and increasing their membership rapidly. Court Hendrum is also a new court that is making rapid progress, having had ten initiations at the last meeting.

Bro. Geo. V. Brown, of Court Owatonna (a new court), at its last meeting stirred the boys up by bringing in ten applications. Bro. Brown has been appointed a State Deputy, and will institute a number of courts during the summer.

### Wisconsin.

#### Official Circular.

*To the Officers and Members of the Subordinate Courts of the Independent Order of Foresters of Wisconsin, Greeting:*

The officers of the High Court would respectfully call your attention to the fact that, according to our Constitution, each subordinate court is required to make a semi-annual report to the High Court, and to remit, as High Court dues, the sum of fifty cents for each member in good standing on the first day of July.

Enclosed will be found blanks for this purpose. It is desired that these reports and the dues should be in the hands of the High Secretary at least by the 10th of July.

It is with pleasure that the High Court officers announce to the officers and members

of the subordinate courts the increased prosperity of our Order in this State. There are now ten organizers at work, placed here by the Supreme Council, and all under the immediate direction of our High Chief Ranger, who is supplied by the Supreme Chief Ranger with ample means to push the work in this state.

Two new courts, one at Chippewa Falls and one at New Richmond, have been added to the 27 courts we had at the time of our High meeting, making now 29 courts in this State, with very flattering prospects of more soon.

Many of the old courts have entered the work with much enthusiasm, and have increased their membership quite materially by their own personal exertions.

It is the desire of the High Court officers to push the work as much as possible, and with sincere thanks for the enthusiasm with which some of our courts have entered this work, and expecting a still greater exertion and assistance on the part of all of our courts and members in the State, we remain,

Yours in L., B. and C.,

B. F. PARKER, J. C. PROCTOR,  
High Chief Ranger. High Secretary.  
Dated Madison, Wis., June 5th, 1895.

### California.

#### An Interesting Letter from the High Secretary of California.

#### FORESTRY FLOURISHING IN THE GOLDEN STATE.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., May 18th, 1894.  
Editor INDEPENDENT FORESTER.

I have noticed that of late very little has appeared in the columns of the FORESTER in reference to progress which our Order is making in California. I therefore take the present opportunity to say a few words on behalf of the Golden State, one which should not be passed over in silence.

Independent Forestry in California, ever since the first court of the Order was planted therein, has been a live issue, and while in the past we have met with much opposition on the part of other Orders, yet the Grand Financial system of the I.O.F., coupled with the prompt manner in which all obligations are met, has commanded the respect and admiration of all.

The recent visit to the State of our esteemed Supreme Chief Ranger, together with the re-opening of the "Honor Badge" competition, has created a "Boom" in the way of applications for membership which will not soon be forgotten.

A few of our courts report the number of applications received thus far this month as follows.

Court Los Angeles, No. 422,	about 40
" Morris Vineyard, No. 532,	" 25
" Semi Tropic, No. 1442,	" 18
" Wildwood, No. 633,	" 31
" California, No. 451,	" 54
" Occident, No. 467,	" 33

while several others range from 3 to 10 each. I think it safe to say that California will turn